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O. S. W. S. A.

THE TENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE OREGON STATE WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD AND FOURTH DAYS AND THE CLOSING SESSION ON SATURDAY MORNING—THE NEW OFFICERS.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The sessions of the Oregon State Woman Suffrage Association in Y. M. C. A. Hall on Thursday last were characterized by a notable increase in attendance.

The morning session was called to order at 10:30 o'clock by the Vice-President, Mrs. Duniway.

The Secretary, Miss Maggie Foster, read the minutes of the preceding session, which were duly approved.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following:

Resolved, That a republican form of government is based upon the eternal principle of no taxation without representation. Rights and burdens must correspond.

Resolved, That any man who forgets these principles is false to liberty.

Mr. D'Arcy spoke upon the first resolution, arguing strongly against the injustice of taxation without representation, and claimed that the principle applied equally to men and women.

Mr. Benjamin stated that the usual argument was that women were represented because enumerated.

Mrs. Thompson said that this was the argument applied to negroes in the days of slavery.

The resolution was adopted.

The second evoked considerable discussion.

Mr. Collins, of Dallas, thought the accusation too sweeping. A man was not necessarily false to liberty who was opposed to equality of taxation and representation. Honest men sometimes opposed Woman Suffrage.

Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Loughary spoke in favor of the resolution without change.

Mrs. Duniway offered the following substitute:

Resolved, That any man who objects to these principles fails to comprehend the spirit of liberty.

Mrs. Thompson objected.

Miss Foster favored the substitute; thought it correctly expressed the idea intended to be conveyed.

Mr. Pearce favored the substitute.

Mrs. Duniway said that men had often accused women of tirades against them. She did not wish to give them opportunity to truthfully accuse her sex of that of which they were not guilty. Women like men and must study to make them believe it.

The substitute was voted down, and the original resolution was made a special order of business for 2 o'clock.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Called to order at 2 o'clock, the Vice-President in the chair.

The resolution that had evoked so much discussion at the morning session was replaced by the following substitute:

Resolved, That any person who objects to the theory of "no taxation without representation" fails to comprehend the spirit of liberty, and is not an advocate of a republican form of government.

The following was next offered by the Committee on Resolutions and passed without debate:

Resolved, That the right of self-government inheres in the individual and justly belongs to every human being, subject to the obligations the right carries with it; and as the principles of liberty were never based upon the distinction of sex, any system of representation that imposes legal disabilities upon sex is not republican in form, because it does not include "every citizen."

Judge Holmes offered the following, which also passed unanimously:

WHEREAS, The object of government is the protection of the people in their natural and relative rights, by the passage of equal and just laws, operating on all alike; and, WHEREAS, In all governments there are many vicious, ignorant and immoral persons, who endanger the peace and safety of society; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association that the elective franchise should not be confined to one sex, but should include both sexes, upon the same grounds, tests and principles, and should be as universal as the peace and safety of society may warrant.

The second resolution offered by this gentleman was that State governments should be established by law, and that tests of suffrage should be based upon a defined intellectual and moral qualification.

Mrs. Thompson made a strong speech in favor of the resolution. She was opposed to allowing ignorance and vice to vote.

Mrs. Martin agreed with Mrs. Thompson.

Mrs. Coburn objected. She thought the wise thing for women would be to secure the elective franchise before they undertook to limit it. This resolution, if passed, would have as much power to effect its purpose as the pope's bull against the comet. While, abstractly speaking, the principle it enunciated was right, it was neither wise nor

expedient to antagonize voters by adopting it. The resolution was premature.

Mr. D'Arcy advocated the resolution. In the course of his remarks he used the words, "If I am ever so unfortunate as to get married."

The chair suggested that he ought not to use that word "unfortunate" in reference to marriage when so many widows were present. [Universal merriment.]

The gentleman modified his expression and mildly rebuked the chair for interrupting a debate. [Laughter and applause.]

Mrs. Johnson was called to the chair, and Mrs. Duniway spoke against the resolution. She was reminded of the mice in council, who passed a resolution to bell a marauding cat, but failed to find a mouse to put the resolution into execution.

The resolution was lost by unanimous vote.

The following resolutions were passed without debate:

Resolved, That while we hold that a true, enlightened advocate of a republican form of government will freely accord equal rights to all law-abiding and tax-paying citizens, we also recognize the fact that our opponents are honest in their adverse opinions; therefore we call upon them to dispassionately investigate our claims by the light of reason under the demands of justice.

Resolved, That as woman is an integral part of the body politic, she is justly entitled to all the rights, privileges and immunities guaranteed to man, the right of suffrage included.

Resolved, That the proffer of liberty to a class of persons, while withholding the means of securing its blessings, is a mockery, a sham and a cheat.

Resolved, That the denial of the elective franchise to any person or class on account of sex is tyranny, unwarranted and criminal.

Rev. Dr. May, formerly rabbi of the Synagogue Beth Israel, upon being called for, spoke for a few minutes in advocacy of equal rights for men and women. He was glad to see the mothers of the race interested in their enfranchisement. He was a disciple of Moses, the first great emancipator. He asked women to place their standard high, and urged them to repudiate all wrong-doing in their own sex as well as in men.

Rev. Dr. Atkinson spoke briefly, in response to an invitation, giving many cogent reasons for his opinion that woman should become a recognized factor in the law-making power of the land. His remarks revealed close study of the subject, and were deeply interesting.

Rev. Paul A. Smith, a Universalist clergyman from Polk county, gave the movement his hearty endorsement.

A goodly number of new names were added to the constitution.

Adjourned to 7:30 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The largest audience that had thus far assembled greeted the members of the Association.

The meeting was opened by President Heroy, and after the regular order of business the following programme was rendered:

Music—Piano solo, by Mrs. F. Owen, which was given in a pleasing manner.

C. J. Curtis followed with an eloquent address.

An essay entitled "Maid of Athens," by Dr. C. H. Hall, was rendered in a masterly manner and evoked hearty applause.

Rev. T. L. Eliot introduced Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Jr., who made an excellent address. [The Oregonian pronounced Mr. Garrison's speech "the main feature of the evening."]

An elaborate essay on the law relating to the construction of statutes and amendments was read by Judge J. L. Collins, of Dallas. Mr. Collins particularly dwelt on the construction of constitutional amendments, and evinced a thorough familiarity with his subject.

The meeting concluded with a solo on the piano by Mrs. F. Owen, entitled "Garfield's Funeral March," which she played in a feeling manner.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until Friday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

FOURTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 10:30 o'clock by President Heroy.

The reading of minutes was deferred until the afternoon session.

The session was mainly engaged in conferring as to the best distribution of county work, in compliance with several suggestions of President Heroy, published in his annual message. The meeting was spirited and harmonious, and the ladies devoted themselves strictly to business. The nomination of county workers was partly agreed upon, and left to be completed in the afternoon.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was called to order promptly at 2 o'clock by President Heroy.

Minutes of preceding sessions were read and approved.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

President—Mrs. H. A. Loughary, of Yamhill county.

Vice-President-at-Large—Mrs. A. S. Duniway, of Multnomah.

Recording Secretary—Miss Maggie Foster, of Linn.

Corresponding Secretary—Miss Anna Fearnside, of Multnomah.

These officers are *ex officio* members of the Executive Committee. Mrs. C. A. Coburn, of Multnomah, was chosen the fifth member of the committee.

Treasurer—Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, of Multnomah.

On motion, the retiring President escorted the President-elect to the platform and presented her to the Convention. In a few appropriate remarks Mrs. Loughary acknowledged the honor conferred, and assured the Convention that no efforts to further the cause of Woman Suffrage would be spared by her.

A vote of thanks was offered to President Heroy for his uniform kindness and consideration while occupying the chair, and for services rendered by him in that capacity.

Mr. Heroy replied very happily, and regretted that his labors had been so slight in promoting the movement.

Mrs. Dr. Owen was called upon and read an excellent address, entitled "Woman as a Physician."

A vote of thanks was tendered the Oregonian for its fair and full reports of the Convention, and to other journals in Portland for their kind mention of the proceedings. Thanks were also extended to Dr. C. H. Hall, of Salem, for his kindness in attending and addressing the meeting; Hon. W. F. Benjamin of Roseburg, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Jr., of Boston, Judge J. L. Collins of Dallas, and all other speakers, for their generous assistance; to Mrs. Woolner, the City Glee Club, and Mrs. Owen, for music kindly supplied by them.

Rev. Mr. West closed an admirable essay by a spirited eulogy of Mrs. Duniway, to which that lady responded with a feeling tribute to Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Sr., Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others, beside whose noble work, she said, her own efforts were quite insignificant.

The following names were suggested by Mrs. Duniway as Vice-Presidents of the different counties of Oregon: Miss Maggie Foster of Linn, Mrs. J. DeVore Johnson of Clackamas, Mrs. R. Eaton of Union, Miss Mary Douthitt of Grant,

Mrs. J. De Spain of Umatilla, Mrs. M. A. Dalton of Multnomah, Mrs. M. Minto of Marion, Mrs. A. M. Martin of Yamhill, Mrs. C. Donnell of Wasco, Mrs. Inez Parker of Clatsop, Miss Kate Thornton of Jackson, Mrs. Lottie Ream of Lane, Miss Cora Bayley of Benton, Miss Lucy P. Hay of Douglas, Mrs. Werden of Josephine, Mrs. Emma Ricker for Coos and Curry, Mrs. M. O. Moore of Lake, Miss Lottie Cleaver of Baker, Miss Ellen Scott of Washington, Miss Allen of Polk, Miss Maggie Fearnside of Tillamook and Mrs. Eugene Semple of Columbia.

On motion, the meeting adjourned until 7:30 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Convention called to order at 7:30 o'clock, with Mrs. H. A. Loughary, President-elect, in the chair. The exercises opened with a short address by J. F. D'Arcy.

Rev. H. K. Hines followed in an excellent speech.

Next on the programme was a vocal duet by Mrs. H. W. Scott and Miss Ellen Chamberlin. The selection was a serenade by Schubert, and was very well rendered. Mrs. H. Y. Thompson presided at the piano very effectually during the rendition of the duet.

Rev. J. A. Gray was next introduced, and delivered an eloquent address, wherein he cited Richard Grant White as saying that "a deplorable ignorance existed among American women in regard to political affairs; that not three women out of ten in the better class of American women in the cities of New York, Brooklyn, Albany or Boston could tell the name of the Governor of the State in which they reside, or mention who was Senator or Congressman from their district." He further quoted Richard Grant White as saying that "almost every woman living in the United States during the civil war had one or more relatives either killed or wounded, and yet were those women to be interrogated as to the principles for which those men bled, but a small proportion could answer correctly." Mr. Gray said he hoped that statement was not true; that he wished to find any statement made like that in regard to American women, and hoped that the time was coming when the women would be accorded equal privileges under the law. This gentleman's pen picture of the coronation of Queen Victoria was a marvelously beautiful display of eloquence and feeling.

Mrs. Duniway asked permission to say a few words in regard to Mr. White's article wherein that quotation appeared. She said that Mr.

White might not have had the opportunity to converse with intelligent women; that perhaps his intercourse was with that class of women whose elevation to society was comparatively recent, and whose early education was neglected; that from mingling with such society he might have been led to write the article wherein the quoted words appear; that there were thousands of American women, good, substantial farmers' wives, of whom the world never heard, who were competent to pass upon any question of politics or history that might be submitted to them; who never traveled abroad and never met the average newspaper correspondent. Such men's heads were often turned by society that would not tolerate them if they were not looked to as "Jenkinses" to write up receptions and parties for the public press.

After Mrs. Duniway concluded, Mrs. H. W. Scott and Miss Ellen Chamberlin favored the audience with a duet entitled "Bird of Beauty," which was exceedingly well rendered. Mrs. H. Y. Thompson accompanied the ladies on the piano.

Rabbi May followed in a few well-chosen observations, which indicated that he had bestowed much thought upon the subject of equal rights.

Miss Shelton, of Olympia, W. T., invited the members of the Association to that city.

The President announced that a business meeting would be held the next morning at 10 o'clock. The Convention then adjourned.

FIFTH DAY—CLOSING SESSION.

Called to order by the Vice-President.

Minutes of previous meeting read and corrected. Miss Mary E. Shelton, of Olympia, objected to being called "Miss Julia Shelton" in the reports. This mistake had crept into all the papers. Miss Julia was her cousin and had not been present.

The name of Mr. Moreland had also been printed instead of that of Mr. Martin, in connection with the debates of the third day. Corrected.

The Secretary reported the total receipts of the Convention as \$61 50. Bills were presented and warrants issued for \$51 00, the total expenses. Balance on hand, \$10 50.

The Executive Committee authorized Mrs. J. DeVore Johnson, of Oregon City, to prepare a circular letter of instruction for the use of Vice-Presidents for the different counties in urging the claims of the Association upon nominating conventions and members-elect of the Legislature for 1882.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mrs. H. W. Scott and Miss Ellen Chamberlin for their very acceptable music at the previous evening session, and to Mrs. H. Y. Thompson for piano accompaniments.

Mesdames Dalton, Edmunds and Torrey, the efficient Committee on Programme, received a like vote.

Mrs. Duniway was specially invited by Miss Shelton, of Washington Territory, to visit the Legislature at Olympia during the coming week.

The officers were thrown into momentary consternation by the discovery that the janitor of the hall had emptied the table drawers containing the files of letters, essays, etc., which had been read before the Convention and ordered printed, and had inadvertently burned the entire collection. This fact, with accompanying regrets, was ordered spread upon the minutes.

Adjourned *sine die*.

YAMHILL COUNTY CONVENTION.

The Yamhill County Woman Suffrage Association will convene at North Yamhill on Wednesday, the 16th of November, at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. The following programme will be carried out as nearly as possible:

Afternoon Session.—Reading the minutes of the previous meeting; appointing committees; attending to such other preliminary matters as may come before the meeting.

Evening Session.—Music; essay by Mrs. Calbreath, of Lafayette; address of welcome by Mrs. H. A. Loughary, of McMinnville; address by Mr. T. M. Draper, of the Wasco County Sun.

Second Day.—Reading the minutes of the previous sessions; discussion of resolutions and such other matters as may come before the convention.

Evening Session.—Singing; reading of minutes; essay by Mrs. S. A. McKune, of Amity; address by Mrs. A. S. Duniway, of the New Northwest; short volunteer speeches by members and others.

We hope there will be a full attendance of all well-wishers of the cause of equal rights, and especially of the voters of Yamhill county. We want them to come and hear the arguments in favor of equal suffrage regardless of sex.

ANNA M. MARTIN,
Corr. Sec'y Y. C. W. S. A.

The *Polaris*, Rev. J. H. Acton's new weekly journal, made its appearance last Saturday. It is printed on tinted paper, and its typography is fair. From its salutatory, we learn that it will "assume to cover" a number of fields, including Woman Suffrage. We welcome it as an ally, and will be thankful for any assistance it may render us.